

6. #246

DD #3

From Minister Shigemitsu at Shanghai

to Foreign Minister Shidehara

Dispatched from Shanghai afternoon, 19.9.1931,

received in the afternoon, 19.9.1931.

Telegram No. 974-1 (Cipher, strictly confidential, very urgent)

On the morning of the 19th, by special request of Mr. T. V. Soong, I had a pretty long talk with him on the clash of the troops of both countries in Manchuria. Soong eagerly expressed his opinion that, in order to save the general situation, we in short proposed to restrain the incident from expanding, and to appoint a power of about three members from both sides to investigate and settle the incident, in order thereby to mitigate disastrous effects upon the relations between Japan and China, as well as both peoples. His proposal was of course personal. (To be concluded)

From Minister Shigenitsu at Shanghai

to Foreign Minister Shidehara

Dispatched from Shanghai, afternoon, 19.9.1931,

received in the afternoon, 19.9.1931.

Telegram No.974-2 (Cipher, strictly confidential, very urgent)

But after due considerations, I thought it to be an appropriate step and replied to him that I would hurry to find out the opinion of the Government and give him a reply, asking him at the same time if his plan was workable on the part of the Chinese Government. Soong answered that if my reply should be favorable, he would fly to Nanking immediately to obtain approval, and that he himself would join the commission.

I will report separately by telegram about the details of this interview, but its gist being as above, the opinion of the Government, if provisional, concerning this proposal and your directive for my further conducting negotiations in this regard are urgently awaited.

Reported to Mukden, Nanking and Peiping.